GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2332
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
MEDICAL EDUCATION
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Medical Education in India is still beyond the reach of common man as the admission to MBBS courses is determined on monetary capacity of the candidate rather than his academic merit;

(b) if so, whether India produce enough Doctors every year to take care of its requirements especially in rural areas;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy for not to allow any more new private medical colleges and establish its own medical colleges with the assistance from the State Governments/Universities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) It is not correct to say that medical education is beyond the reach of common man. Many students are getting admission in Govt. Medical Colleges where fee is very low and also against the merit seats in private medical colleges where the fee is far below the fee structure fixed for payment seats. All admissions to medical colleges are done on academic merit. As per the judgement of the Supreme Court in Unni Krishnan case in 1993, charging of capitation fees by private professional colleges has been abolished and the fee structure for payment seats is being fixed by the Govt.

(b) Taking into account more than 5 lakhs registered allopathic medical practitioners and about 6 lakhs of registered practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy, there are sufficient number of doctors to take care of health-care services all over the country including rural areas.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal at present. After the Indian Medical Council Act was amended in 1992, new medical colleges can be established, either by Govt. or Private management, only after following the procedure provided in the Act and after approval by Central Government.